

State Route 179

Results of Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting

City of Sedona

Arizona Department of Transportation

Presentation Content

- Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting intent
- Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting outcome
- Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting content
- Sedona values & vision
- ADOT values & vision
- Items Sedona and ADOT will mutually consider in future work group meetings

Presentation Content

- Areas of mutual understanding between Sedona & ADOT
- Anticipated short-term actions by Sedona & ADOT
- Current project status
- Next steps
- Concluding statement

Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting Intent

- The City of Sedona and ADOT agreed this summer to meet to discuss improvements to State Route 179 from the North Forest Boundary to the “Y.”
- “The intent was to have each party understand each other’s presentations and viewpoints. At the conclusion of the meeting, they may not agree, but they will understand each side’s viewpoints and interests.”

Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting Outcome

- The City of Sedona and ADOT will take matters discussed back to their respective organizations for further discussion.
- Both parties are committed to additional dialogue on improvements to SR 179 from the North Forest Boundary to the “Y.”

Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting Content

- Discussed four key issues:
 - Underlying premises and interests
 - Engineering
 - Highway configuration
 - Context sensitive design
- Reached understanding on some key points & clarified facts
- Established framework for future dialogue

Underlying premises & interests – Sedona values

- Small-town character
- Safety of citizens
- Quality of life
- Scenic beauty
- Environmental quality
- Maintenance of current land use plan
- Consistency with community plan
- Maintenance of economy
- Efficiency of traffic flow

Underlying premises & interests – Sedona vision

- Vision statements from Sedona community plan
- Adherence to values and community plan

Underlying premises & interests – ADOT values

- Safe and efficient system
- Public and stakeholder participation and trust
- Environmental stewardship
- Context sensitive design
- Mobility
- Access
- Quality products and services

Underlying premises & interests – ADOT vision

- Traffic safety
- Public safety
- Road maintenance
- Traffic growth
- Arterial function
- Accessibility for residents and businesses

Sedona & ADOT agreed to:

- Break the North Forest Boundary to the “Y” project into two segments, with a “Y” area project to be done first

Sedona & ADOT agreed to mutually consider:

- A Need-Based Implementation Plan that includes a section-by-section evaluation of the number of lanes and configuration

Sedona & ADOT agreed to evaluate regional context

- ADOT has committed to updating the regional transportation plan for the Verde Valley area, with participation by other stakeholders.
- Sedona will consider partnering with ADOT on updating local and regional transportation plans.

Sedona & ADOT will mutually consider:

- Intersection improvements
- Multi-use pathways
- Number of lanes
- Mitigation measures
- Aesthetic values
- Drainage

Right-of-Way Acquisition

- ADOT intends to buy the full right-of-way for its preferred alternative.
- The City of Sedona currently disagrees with this approach. It will discuss the matter with City Council and desires to further discuss the subject with ADOT.

Project Sequencing and Boundaries

- Sedona prefers that the project begin at the northern boundary of the Village of Oak Creek.
- ADOT presently is not considering revising the northern limits of the Village of Oak Creek to North Forest Boundary project.

Sedona will:

- Schedule a City Council work session on topics discussed at the Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting
- Participate in future work group meetings to reach consensus on items discussed at the Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting

ADOT will:

- Update the ADOT director on items discussed at the Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting
- Participate in future work group meetings to reach consensus on items discussed at the Engineer-to-Engineer Meeting
- Continue with the EA (Environmental Assessment) process

Current project status

- EA (Environmental Assessment) is under internal review by ADOT and Federal Highway Administration.
- Design consultant has been selected for the Village of Oak Creek to North Forest Boundary project.

Current project status

- Construction of the North Forest Boundary to the “Y” project is scheduled for 2007 at the earliest.
- The “Y” area project may begin construction in 2005 at the earliest.

Next steps

- Complete EA (Environmental Assessment).
- Select design consultant for project (North Forest Boundary to the “Y” and “Y” area project) – consultant selection process takes about 6 months.
- Continue Sedona & ADOT work group sessions to reach consensus on items discussed at Engineer-to-Engineer meeting.

Next steps

- With participation by City of Sedona and other stakeholders, initiate design that includes roadway configuration and amenities.
- Schedule design briefings with Sedona City Council.

Concluding statement

- The City of Sedona and ADOT are pleased with the results of the Engineer-to-Engineer meeting. Areas of mutual understanding have been identified, and facts have been clarified. Both parties are optimistic about working together to achieve a design for SR 179 improvements that meets local and regional needs while preserving the vision and values of both the City of Sedona and ADOT.